

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph 31 with the following replacement paragraph:

In at least some embodiments, when the removed wires are each replaced with new wires at 207, each of the drivers, previously used to drive signals on the removed wires, are not adjusted. Accordingly, the driver for driving signals on a new wire can be substantially the same size as a driver used to drive signals on a removed wire. Similarly, no new buffers are inserted into the IC design along the path of the new wire. By not adding additional components, not adjusting the characteristics of the existing components, and spacing the new wire away from existing wires, the likelihood of the replacement wire introducing new crosstalk effects into the IC design is reduced. Thus, existing timing violations can be corrected without introducing new timing violations into the IC design. This can in turn reduce the number of routing passes needed to produce a final design that passes the sign-off timing analysis. In some embodiments, the method of FIG. 2 can be performed using a single routing pass (e.g., function 207 is performed a single time to replace all of the removed wires and produces a final design that passes sign-off timing analysis).